GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3188
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2003
AIDS AWARENESS CAMPS
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of AIDS awareness camps organised by NACO (National AIDS Control Organisation) during 2001-2002 and the current year respectively;

(b) the approximate number of people reached through such camps by NACO;

(c) whether such camps had any impact on the anti-AIDS campaign;

(d) if so, the cost of conducting such camps by NACO; and

(e) the details of the strategy of NACO to create mass awareness about AIDS?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) The National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) organized two rounds of AIDS awareness camps (Family Health Awareness Campaign) one in each year i.e. 2001 and 2002 to raise awareness among rural & slum populations about prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS and RTIs (Reproductive tract Infections).

No such camp has been conducted in the current year so far.

(b) The approximate number of people in the age group of 15 to 49 years reached through such camps is as follows:

Year 2001	71.2	million
Year 2002	52.65	million

(c) Yes Sir. An independent external evaluation was conducted by IndiaCLEN (India Clinical Epidemiology Network), AIIMS, New Delhi, during FHAC 2002.

The salient findings of evaluation were as follows:

Target beneficiaries visited by health workers during house-to-house visits were having correct knowledge about symptoms, complications of Reproductive Tract Infections including Sexually Transmitted Infections and prevention of HIV/AIDS, 2.41, 2.06 and 1.54 times higher respectively, than those not visited by health care workers.

(d) The amount released to State AIDS Control Societies for conduction of these camp (FHAC) were as under :

Year 2001	Rs. 22.07 Crores
Year 2002	Rs. 34.84 Crores

(e) Government gives highest priority to an effective and sustained awareness campaign through Information, Education, and Communication (IEC).

The government`s programme for awareness generation follows a multi media approach, which includes television, radio, press, print, and outdoor publicity and interpersonal communication and advocacy. These are carried out extensively through State AIDS Control Societies and linkages with media units of Information and Broadcasting Ministry and through intersectoral partnerships with other ministries and sectors.

For sensitization of children and young people, the School AIDS Education Programme, the Universities Talk AIDS and Village Talk AIDS programmes are being implemented in collaboration with Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports.